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MUSIC

Here is the full list of winners in Nashville for the 11th Annual Josie Music Awards 2025

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On Nov. 2, the 11th annual Josie Music Awards (the JMAs) returned to Music City.

Honoring the best in the independent music industry across all genres, the JMAs handed out 244 total awards at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville.

The JMAs, the largest independent music award show in the world, were created by mother-daughter duo Josie Passantino-Boone and Tinamarie Passantino in 2015.

The pair wanted to create a space for independent music artists, songwriters and industry professionals to gather and celebrate their work.

More: Here is the full list of winners in Nashville for the 10th Annual Josie Music Awards 2024

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The night's top award, the lifetime career achievement honor, went to Lorrie Morgan.

The 66-year-old country singer, a top country stars of the '90s, is known for her hits "Five Minutes," "What Part of No," and "I Didn't Know My Own Strength".

Morgan's son Jesse Keith Whitley presented her the honor before she hit the stage to perform "A Picture of Me (Without You)."

More: Lorrie Morgan: Country singer with three No. 1 hits charted first single 'Two People in Love' in 1979

Another one of the night's top honors, the songwriter legend award, went to Steve Dorff, a songwriter who has written over 20 top 10 pop and country hits.

He was presented the award by John Berry and Bobby Tomberlin.

To see the night's full winners list, read on.

2025 Josie Music Award Winners

Lifetime Career Achievement: Lorrie Morgan
Songwriter Legend Award: Steve Dorff
JMA Icon Award: EG Daily
The JMA Tex Ritter Award: The Malpass Brothers
Entertainer of the Year - Artist: JD Shelburne
Entertainer of the Year - Duo/Group: The Almas
Artist of the Year - Multi-Genre Male: Chad Johnson
Artist of the Year – Rock: Jasmine Cain
Artist of the Year - Country Female: EmiSunshine
Artist of the Year - Modern/Pop Country Female: McKayla Prew
Artist of the Year - Outlaw Country: Josh Davis
Artist of the Year - R&B/Soul: Shylah Ray
Artist of the Year - Americana/Folk Male: Brian Allison
Artist of the Year - Southern Rock/Country Rock Female: Krystal King
Artist of the Year - Southern Rock/Country Rock Male: Brooks Herring
Artist of the Year - Under 18 Alumni: Tege Holt
Artist of the Year - Under 18: Tristan Roberson
Artist of the Year - Pop Rock: Tim Ringer
Artist of the Year - Americana/Folk Female: Samantha Grimes
Artist of the Year - Gospel/Christian/Inspirational: Shellem Cline
Artist of the Year - Jazz/Blues: Travis Bowlin
Artist of the Year - Multi-Genre Female: Clare Cunningham
Artist of the Year - Country Male: Waylon Hanel
Artist of the Year - Country Male Alumni: Chad Bushnell
Artist of the Year - Modern/Pop Country Male: Jake Bradley
Artist of the Year - Traditional/Classic Country: B.J. Jamison
Artist of the Year - Pop/Dance/Contemporary: Alyssa Jacey
World Artist of the Year: Love Itoya
Rising Star of the Year Female: Robyn Ashley
Rising Star of the Year Male: Garrett Huffman

Rising Star of the Year - Modern Country/Pop Country Female: Jacki Daniels
Rising Star of the Year - Country Female: Ashley Brooks
Rising Star of the Year - Country Male: Kevin Thomas
Rising Star of the Year - Country Mix Male: Travis Reigh
Emergent Artist of the Year: John Eason
Emergent Artist of the Year - Country Female: Presley Puig
Emergent Artist of the Year - Country Male: Caden Wilson
Duo of the Year – Americana: Sugarcane Jane
Duo of the Year – Country: Cliff & Susan
Group of the Year – Country: Matt Tejeda and The Backwoods Band
Group of the Year - Multi-Genre: Crooked Eye Tommy
Group of the Year – Bluegrass: Carolina Bluegrass Style
Group of the Year – Americana: Andrew Moore and Hooch
Group of the Year - Hard Rock/Metal: Lost Circus
Duo of the Year - Multi-Genre: Harmony Holler
Duo/Group of the Year - Gospel: Riven
Group of the Year - Country/Rock: The Jess Zimmerman Band
Group of the Year - Southern Rock: Greye
Group of the Year - Outlaw Country: Cody Ikerd and the Sidewinders
Group of the Year – Blues: King Bee & The Stingers
Group of the Year - Alternative/Indie/Pop Rock: Defeated
Group of the Year – Rock: The Goldy LockS Band
Vocal Event of the Year - Male/Female Collaboration: Kirstie Kraus, Mike Nash “Largo”
Vocal Event of the Year: Andrew Chappell and Dave Nudo “I’m All In”
Vocalist of the Year - Multi-Genre Female: Abbie Thomas
Vocalist of the Year - Multi-Genre Male: Chase Bush
Vocalist of the Year - R&B/Soul: Teri Tobin
Vocalist of the Year - Jazz/Blues: Lauren Anderson
Vocalist of the Year - Americana/Folk Female: Jayna Jennings
Vocalist of the Year - Americana/Folk Male: Jimmy Bowen
Vocalist of the Year – Outlaw: Danny Spiro
Vocalist of the Year - Rock/Metal Male: Chris O’Brien
Vocalist of the Year - Modern Country Male Alumni: Barefoot Joe
Vocalist of the Year - Modern Country: Kevin Wolff
Vocalist of the Year - Country Female Alumni I: Carrie Brockwell

Vocalist of the Year - Country Male Alumni I: Rob Cole
\Vocalist of the Year - Country Male I: Travis Thamert
Vocalist of the Year - Under 18 Alumni: Robert Levey II
Vocalist of the Year - Under 18: Zoey Rae
Vocalist of the Year – Pop: Jack Austin
Vocalist of the Year - Pop/Rock: River Gibson
Vocalist of the Year - Adult Contemporary: Lacy Miller
Vocalist of the Year - Gospel/Christian/Inspirational Female: Cece Manuela
Vocalist of the Year - Gospel/Christian/Inspirational Male: Whitlee Casey
Vocalist of the Year – Bluegrass: Tianna Lefebvre
Vocalist of the Year - Country Rock/Southern Rock Male: Scott Boyd
Vocalist of the Year - Country Rock/Southern Rock Female: Tobi Lee
Vocalist of the Year - Rock/Metal Female: Chelsea Calloway
Vocalist of the Year - Modern Country Female Alumni: Christine Radlmann
Vocalist of the Year - Traditional/Classic Country: Eric Diamond
Vocalist of the Year - Country Female I: Lucie Tiger
Vocalist of the Year - Country Female II: Audra McLaughlin
Vocalist of the Year - Country Male II: Cody Glenn Cox
Vocalist of the Year - Country Female Alumni II: Jenny Grace
Vocalist of the Year - Country Male Alumni II: Caleb Kelley
Songwriter of the Year - Personal Portfolio Female Alumni: Erin Stoll
Songwriter of the Year - Personal Portfolio Female: Ashley Jordan
Songwriter of the Year - Personal Portfolio Male Alumni: Andru Jamison
Songwriter of the Year: Corey Lee Barker
Songwriter of the Year - Personal & Pitching Portfolio Female: Sheri Swartz
Songwriter of the Year - Personal Portfolio Male: Aaron Hymes
Songwriter of the Year - Personal & Pitching Portfolio Male: Brad McKinney
Story-Enhanced Performance Video of the Year: “If I Sin For You?” Celeste Marie Wilson
Story-Enhanced Performance Video of the Year Male: “Mama Never Liked The Rodeo,” Eric Lee Beddingfield
Story Enhanced Performance Video of the Year Duo/Group/Collabs: “I Didn’t Know,” The Goldy LockS Band Feat. Mickie James & The Lacs
Music Video of the Year Performance Focused Duo/Group: “The Will,” Nu-Blu
Music Video of the Year Performance Focused Female: “The Bitter End,” Brenda Best
Music Video of the Year Performance Focused Male: “Damn Good Time,” Jordan Moore

Social Impact Video of the Year Duo/Group/Collab: “High Heel On The Pedal,” Ashlie Amber Feat. Velvet Rodeo
Social Impact Video of the Year Male: “I’m Sorry,” Chuck Thomas
Social Impact Video of the Year Female: “Stardust,” Shy Blossom
Expressive Verse Video of the Year: “Make Canada Great Again,” Rudy Gunn
Music Video of the Year Duo/Group/Collab: “Taste The Whiskey, ” Eric Lee Beddingfield with Jesse Keith Whitley
Music Video of the Year Female: “Gunfire,” Remington Mae
Music Video of the Year Male: “Wishing Well,” Louie Lee”
Music and Video Projects Children’s: “Baby Ninja,” Kelli Welli
Music Video of the Year Female Alumni: “Mind Your Own Backyard,” Krystal King
Music Video of the Year Male Alumni: “White Trash Like Me,” Joey Ferris
Artist/Duo/Group of the Year Children’s: Kathryn the Grape
Musician of the Year – Banjo: Dustin Terpenning
Musician of the Year - Brass/Woodwind: Evangelos Carydakis (Saxophone)
Multi-Instrumentalist - Musician of the Year: EJ Edward Ouellette
Musician of the Year – Strings: Kyle Roop (Pedal Steel)
Musician of the Year – Bass: Charlie Frie
Musician of the Year – Keys: MarQ Andrew Speck
Musician of the Year – Piano: Dr. Tedrin Blair Lindsay
Musician of the Year - Piano/Keys Alumni: Ed Bazel
Musician of the Year - Drums/Percussion: Squeak Melusky
Musician of the Year - Drums/Percussion Alumni: AJ Newton
Musician of the Year - Guitar I: David Jones
Musician of the Year - Guitar II: Terence Young
Musician of the Year - Guitar III: Damon Mitchell
Social Impact - Song of the Year Female: ”Forever 13,” Khloe Grace
Social Impact Song of the Year - Female Alumni: “The Sacrifice,” Alyssa Ruffin
Social Impact Song of the Year – Male: “Buy Me A Memory,” Chet Lawrence
Social Impact Song of the Year: “Stand,” Kathryn Shipley, Lee Newton, Nita Perez, Dimitris Nezis, Holly Fischer, Frank Fasano, Phil Kanakis
Holiday Song of the Year: “Cause It’s Christmas,” Revele and Family
Song of the Year – Bluegrass: “Light In My Life,” Jackson Hollow
Song of the Year Alumni - Christian/Gospel/Inspirational: “Wonderful Work,” Jason Lee McKinney Band

Song of the Year - Gospel/Christian/Inspirational: “Glory To God,” Woodshed Revival
Song of the Year - Rock/Alt Rock/Metal: “Walk All Over Me,” Brett Ryder
Song of the Year - Rock/Alt Rock/Metal Individual Alumni: “Ghost,” Spencer Ezell
Song of the Year - Rock/Alt Rock/Metal Duo/Group Alumni: “Lifeline,” The Almas
Song of the Year - Southern Rock/Country Rock Alumni: “Not Ready,” Jake Nelson
Song of the Year - Southern Rock/Country Rock: “Dead Man Running,” Drifted Harmony
Song of the Year - Pop/Rock: “Forever,” The Swansons
Song of the Year – Folk: “Sweet Mountain Music,” Them Lasses
Song of the Year - Americana Female: “Hercules,” Sam Hatmaker Feat. EmiSunshine
Song of the Year - Americana Male: “Worth Breaking,” Brian Allison
Song of the Year - Americana Duo/Group/Collab: “Pretty Lights of Denver,” Weary Ramblers
Song of the Year – Outlaw: “Time To Say Goodbye,” Blackwood Mojo
Song of the Year - World/New Age World: “Smile,” Cecy Santana
Song of the Year – Instrumental: “Tyrone Blues,” D Boone Pittman
Song of the Year - Multi-Genre: “Heaven’s Front Porch,” Flatline
Song of the Year - Pop/Adult Contemporary: “When I’m With You,” Faith Lee
Song of the Year - Pop Alumni I: “Love You More and More,” Kim Cameron Darick DDS Spears
Song of the Year - Jazz/Blues: “Just Walk Away,” Derrick Dove & The Peacekeepers
Song of the Year - R&B/Soul: “Send Me Love,” Markey Blue
Song of the Year - Hip Hop: “My Heart,” Irene Michaels Feat. Twizm Whyte Piece
Song of the Year - Traditional/Classic Country Male: “Don’t Forget, Remember Me,” Webb Dalton
Song of the Year Traditional/Classic Country Female: “That’s The Way Love Goes,” Paula Buchanan
Song of the Year Country Female Alumni: “I told Her For Him,” Rylee Austin
Song of the Year - Country Female I: “Nashville Don’t Forget Me,” Elisa Smith
Song of the Year - Country Male Alumni I: “Can’t Be Roped,” Sam Stinson
Song of the Year Country Male I: “Sundown In A Small Town,” Shawn Richards
Song of the Year Country Male III: “Song On The Radio,” Elliott Booe
Song of the Year - Country Female II: “Hate To Lie,” Lara Bell
Song of the Year - Country Male Alumni II: “Sweet Home Tennessee,” Robert Abernathy
Song of the Year - Country Male II: “Make It To Nashville,” Trey Bryant
Song of the Year - Country Duo/Group/Collab: “Lives In The Whiskey,” Roseland

Song of the Year - Modern Country/Pop Country Male: “Don’t Wanna See The Rain,” Clinton Wilkie
Song of the Year - Modern Country/Pop Country Male Alumni: “Whatcha Gonna Do,” Brandon Lowe
Song of the Year Modern Country/Pop Country Female Alumni: “Mr. Wallen,” Ashlyn Greene
Song of the Year Modern Country/Pop Country Female: “Forgot Your Name,” McKenna Faith Winters
Song of the Year - Children’s Music: “It’s Ok To Make Mistakes,” Irene Rose
Album of the Year - Rock/Hard Rock/Alt Rock/Metal: “Attitude Is Everything,” Jasmine Cain
Album of the Year - Pop/Contemporary/Dance: “Unbridled Angel,” Aaron Sidwell
Album of the Year - Americana/Folk: “Not What I Do,” Laura Sawosko
Album/EP of the Year – Instrumental: “Christmas Romance Instrumentals,” Corey Lee Barker
Album/EP of the Year – Holiday: “That’s What Christmas Means To Me,” Robert Bacon
EP/Album of the Year - Multi-Genre: “Not Gonna Lie,” Abbie Thomas
Album/EP of the Year - Jazz/Blues: “Live From The Slippery Noodle,” King Bee & The Stingers
Album/EP of the Year - Traditional/Classic Country: “Homesick,” Lee Newton
Album of the Year – Country: “Pushing Borders,” Matt Castillo
Album of the Year - Country (Mixed Genre Sound): “When It’s All Said And Done,” Danny Terrell
EP of the Year – Rock: “Obscura,” Brando Vanschoyck
Album/EP of the Year - Christian/Gospel/Inspirational: “Room With A View,” Brandon Hixson
EP of the Year - Pop/Contemporary: “Elements,” CheraLee
EP of the Year - Folk/Americana: “Casualties of a Life Well Lived,” Ashley Jordan
EP of the Year – Country: “Under The Neon,” Dusty Moats
Best Stage Performance: Mr. Talkbox
Tribute Band of the Year: Olivia Mojica Blank Space Tribute - A Tribute to Taylor Swift
Tribute Artist of the Year Female: Ashlie Amber Harris - Tribute to Whitney Houston
Tribute Artist of the Year Male/Country: Keith Ormrod - Tribute to Kenny Chesney
Tribute Artist of the Year Male: Don Suiters (Kid Kentucky) - Tribute to Kid Rock
Record Label of the Year: Clarksville Sound

PR/Promotion Company: 2911 Media
Music Venue of the Year: Ranchman's (Calgary, Canada)
Magazine of the Year: Cashbox Magazine
Television Show/Station of the Year: American Country Network
Podcast/Music Radio Show: Overtones LIVE Presented by Listen Locally
Studio/Production Company of the Year: TuneDesigner
Artist Management Company of the Year: Midwest Artist Group
Solo Artist Representative of the Year: DLS Music
Live Show Productions of the Year: The Coyote Store
Photographer of the Year: Janet Reynolds Photography
Music Business of the Year: Kincaid-Gooch Voice Studio
Radio Station of the Year: Sterling Country Radio
Music Producer of the Year: Dr. Ted Olson
Fan's Choice Female: Macy Tabor
Fan's Choice Female: EV Mae
Fan's Choice Male: David Krantz
Fan's Choice Male: Adam Calvert
Fan's Choice Duo/Group: Kentucky Just Us
Fan's Choice Duo/Group: Matt Clarkson Band
Best Actress in A Music Video: Krystal King, "Mind Your Own Backyard"
Best Actress in A Music Video: Megan Vanlandingham, "Heaven's Front Porch"
Best Actor in A Music Video: Howie Garoutte, "Why Am I Here"
Best Actor in A Music Video: Country Kid Nikko, "Wishing Well"
Vocal Competition Winner At "Passantino's": Gio
Humanitarian Organization of the Year: Wings of Rescue

Songwriter Achievement Winners:

"She Is Talking With Her Eyes" - Paul Overstreet, Rory Feek
"Midnights" - Thornton Cline, Sassy VeZay, Michael Jay
"Good To Be Blessed" - Corey Lee Barker, Loretta Jent
"Bad Chemistry" - Austin McKedy, Tracie McKedy, Mackynsie McKedy
"Higher" - Danny Kensy
"Right Mind at the Wrong Time" - Brad Morgan, Royce Johns
"Fly" - Kelsie Kratins
"Here's to the Man in Red" - Cara Paige, Justine Blazer, Corey Lee Barker

"Honky-Tonk Withdrawal" - John Bielecki, Brandon Maddox
"Enlightenment" - Erin Sliney

To learn more about the Josie Music Awards, head to josiemusicawards.com.

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